Walt Disney's COMICS AND STORIES

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GLUB

Walt Disney's

DONALD DUCK

METEOR MADNESS

'TIS SUMMER! THE TIME OF THE ANNUAL METEOR SHOWERS! WHEN HALF OF DUCKBURG RUSHES INTO THE DESERT IN SEARCH OF WEALTH AND FAME!

WHOEVER FINDS THE LARGEST FRAGMENT OF A METEOR WINS THE ANNUAL DUCKBURG HALL OF RUBBLE SCIENCE PRIZE!

FIVE THOUSAND SMACKEROOS!

AND WITH OUR NIFTY LITTLE METAL DETECTOR WE'RE A CINCH TO WIN!

FIDDLE FADDLE! WITH THIS **BOOK** WE WON'T **NEED** THAT SILLY DOO-DAD!

REALLY? WHAT **IS** THAT BOOK? YOU'VE HAD YOUR HEAD BURIED IN IT FOR DAYS!

"METEORS ARE WHERE YOU FIND THEM" BY PROFESSOR J. LITHOID BANG! A COMPLETE AND CONCISE GUIDE TO FINDING **METEOR FRAGMENTS!**

BRILLIANT TITLE!

ZEROS RIGHT IN ON THE PROBLEM, ALL RIGHT!

LAUGH, OAFS! BUT ACCORDING TO PROFESSOR BANG, GIZMOS ARENT NECESSARY! NOR DO WE HAVE TO DIG SIXTY MILLION HOLES IN THE LANDSCAPE LIKE DEMENTED GOPHERS!

HOW **DO** WE FIND A METEOR FRAGMENT, THEN? **WISH** IT OUT OF THE GROUND?

NO! WE **DIG** IT OUT! BUT ONLY AFTER PHILOSOPHICAL OBSERVATION HAS LED TO A **GUARANTEED** SITE!

OH, **SURE!**

"FOR INSTANCE", SAYS THE PROFESSOR, "IF YOU SEE EVIDENCE OF GROUND CRACKING, YOU ARE IN THE PRESENCE OF A RECENT METEOR HIT!"

LOOK! CRACKS!

WILL WONDERS EVER CEASE?

"TAKE TEN DETERMINED STEPS ALONG THE LARGEST CRACK! THEN DIG!" OBOY! GET THOSE SHOVELS READY!

. . . SIX . . . . . SEVEN . . . . . EIGHT . . .

. . . NINE . . . YIPES!

WHIT

SPLOOP

KIND OF A **MUSHY** METEOR, ISN'T IT, UNCA DONALD?

I THINK ALL OF THE CRACKS ARE IN THE PROFESSOR'S **HEAD!**

NEVER MIND! EVERYBODY MAKES A MISTAKE NOW AND THEN! I MUST HAVE GONE A BIT OFF COURSE!

OF COURSE!

COME ON, UNCA DONALD, IF WE COULD JUST GIVE OUR DETECTOR A CHANCE...

TUT! TUT! THAT ANTIQUE IS USELESS IN THE PRESENCE OF PHILOSOPHICAL OBSERVATION!

LISTEN TO THIS! "ALWAYS CHECK OUT PILES OF LOOSE ROCKS! THEY MAY WELL BE THE AFTERMATH OF A **FRESH** METEOR STRIKE!"

SIGH! ANYONE SEE ANY PILES OF "LOOSE ROCKS"?

THERE'S SOME AT THE BASE OF THAT RISE, BUT-

HOT DOG! NOW WE'RE COOKIN'! THOSE FIVE THOUSAND BERRIES ARE AS GOOD AS IN THE BANK!

HMM! NOTHING HERE BUT **ROCKS!**

HEY! WHO GAVE YOU PERMISSION TO RUMMAGE AROUND IN MY HARD-EARNED PILE OF ROCKS, YOU TWO-BIT CLAIM JUMPER!

WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT, LADY? I CAN LOOK THROUGH ANY DOGGONE PILE OF ROCKS I WANT! IT'S A FREE DESERT!

OH, **YEAH**?

THEN LOOK THROUGH **THESE** WHILE YOU'RE AT IT, WISE GUY!

RUMBLE RATTLE CLATTER

I TRIED TO TELL YOU IT WAS SOME-BODY ELSE'S DIG, UNCA DONALD!

SO MUCH FOR PHILOSOPHICAL OBSERVATION!

KEEP QUIET AND PULL!

TIME PASSES!

"A DEPRESSION IN THE SURFACE OF THE GROUND OFTEN INDICATES THE PRESENCE OF AN **OLDER** METEOR HIT!"

ANY DEPRESSIONS IN THE GROUND AROUND HERE?

HA! THAT'S LIKE ASKING IF THERE'S ANY SNOW IN THE ALPS!

YOU'RE RIGHT! THERE ARE DEPRESSIONS EVERYWHERE! LOOK!

THE LARGEST ONE **IS** OVER THERE, UNCA DONALD, BUT—

THIS IS IT! I CAN FEEL IT IN MY SOUL!

AND BEST OF ALL, IT'S **SAND** AND EASY TO DIG IN!

BUT—

OBOY! OBOY! I BET THERE'S A METEOR DOWN HERE THE SIZE OF A HEN HOUSE!

BUT—

BUT—

COME TO POPPA, YOU BIG, BEAUTIFUL—

GLOOP

WHAT THE FOZZ-GOTTLED DICKENS AM I INTO NOW?

WE TRIED TO WARN YOU, UNCA DONALD!

IT'S QUICKSAND!

DANGER QUICKSAND KEEP AWAY!

THUS...

NOT A WORD! DON'T EVEN BREATHE AN OPINION!

WE WOULDN'T DREAM OF IT!

NOW WILL YOU ADMIT THAT WE SHOULD USE OUR METAL DETECTOR AND FORGET THAT BOOK!

I'LL ADMIT NOTHING OF THE KIND! FROM NOW ON WE'LL COMBINE OUR EFFORTS, THAT'S ALL!

WITH THE PROFESSOR'S BOOK AND YOUR METAL DETECTOR WE'RE A DOUBLE CINCH TO WIN THE FIVE THOUSAND BUCKS!

YOUSE DON'T SAY!

SOUNDS LIKE THEM DUCKS HAS GOT A SPECIAL SYSTEM OF SOME KIND FER FINDIN' A METEOR! I THINK I'LL TAG ALONG AN' KEEP AN EYE ON 'EM!

HEH! HEH! NEVER LET IT BE SAID DAT WOIMLY FILCHER DON'T TAKE ADVANTAGE OF A GOOD TING WHEN HE SEES IT! WHO KNOWS, IT MIGHT EVEN BE WOITH FIVE TOUSAND BANANAS!

BESIDES, I SURE AIN'T GETTIN' NOWHERE WIT DIS NUMBSKULL SHOVEL!

CLUNK

THE METAL DETECTOR GETS IT'S MOMENT IN THE LIMELIGHT AT LAST!

OBOY! A CONTACT RIGHT OFF THE BAT!

HOT DIGGETY!

DIG AWAY!

BZZZZ

BUT ALAS-

A BELT BUCKLE?

HA! ACCORDING TO THE PROFESSOR, A BELT BUCKLE DOESN'T QUALIFY AS A METEORIC FRAGMENT!

VERY FUNNY!

AND SO IT GOES, FAR INTO THE LONG AFTERNOON!

I'M GETTIN' WORE OUT JUST WATCHIN' DESE GUYS! I HOPE DEY FIND SOMETHIN' PRETTY QUICK, OR I'M LIABLE TO PASS OUT!

SO FAR WE'VE GOT SIX BELT BUCKLES, THREE SPURS, TWO OIL CANS AND A MEAT GRINDER!

AND A WHOLE LOT OF SORE MUSCLES!

MUCH MORE OF THIS AND WE'LL HAVE THE MAKINGS OF A GOOD SIZE SALVAGE YARD!

SO MUCH FOR YOUR ELECTRONIC MARVEL! WE SHOULD HAVE STUCK WITH THE PROFESSOR!

PHOOEY ON THE PROFESSOR! I'M GOING TO GIVE THE DETECTOR ONE MORE TRY!

THUD

CLICK

BZZZZZZZZ!

THIS TIME IT'S PAY DIRT!

LOOK AT THIS BABY! IT'S THE MOTHER OF ALL METEOR FRAGMENTS! WE WIN! WE'RE RICH!

THANKS TO LOUIE'S BIG FEET!

UNCA DONALD-

WHAT? CAN'T YOU SEE I'M BUSY GOING OUT OF MY MIND WITH GLEE?

I THINK WE'VE GOT A PROBLEM!

PROBLEM? WHAT PROBLEM COULD ANYONE WITH FIVE THOUSAND BUCKS WORTH OF AWARD-WINNING METEORITE POSSIBLY HAVE?

HAVING IT STOLEN!

STOLEN?

WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT, DEWEY?

THERE'S A GUY FOLLOWING US! I CATCH A GLIMPSE OF HIM EVERY NOW AND THEN!

HEY, YEAH! I SAW HIM! HE WAS SKULKING OVER THERE UNDER THAT ROCKY OUTCROP A MINUTE AGO!

A REAL SHADY LOOKING CHARACTER!

MAYBE THAT'S BECAUSE HE WAS STANDING IN THE SHADE! BESIDES- WHY WORRY?

IT'S FOUR AGAINST ONE IF HE TRIES ANYTHING!

WRONG, DUCKY BOY! IT'S FOUR LITTLE GUYS AGAINST ONE REALLY BIG ONE!

GRAB

DON'T LET HIM GET AWAY!

GRAB HIM!

COME BACK WITH OUR METEOR, YOU THIEF!

PHOOEY ON YOUSE GUYS! ONCE WOIMLY FILCHER GETS HIS MITTS ON SOMETHIN'...

...HE **KEEPS** IT!

THUD

BLURP

OH, SWELL! OF ALL THE PLACES ON THE WHOLE NIT-WIT DESERT, IT HAD TO LAND **THERE**!

THE **QUICKSAND**!

I WONDER WHAT THE PROFESSOR WOULD HAVE TO SAY ABOUT THIS?

BLUB

NIGHT FALLS, AND WITH IT, MUCH GLOOM!

WOIMLY GAVE UP AND WENT HOME! HE SAID HE WAS DEMORALIZED!

EVERYBODY HAS GIVEN UP AND GONE HOME!

EVERYBODY BUT **US**!

RIGHT NOW I'M TOO DEMORALIZED TO EVEN **THINK** OF GOING HOME!

IT'S A CLEAR NIGHT! IF NOTHING ELSE, MAYBE WE'LL SEE A METEOR FALL!

SURE! AND MAYBE ONE WILL LAND RIGHT IN OUR LAPS AND MAKE US **RICH**!

SISS

YOWCH!

I'LL BE DOGGONED!
A LITTLE BABY METEOR!
NUTS! WE WON'T GET RICH ON METAL MIDGETS LIKE THAT! WE NEED THE BIG STUFF!
DON'T LOOK NOW, UNCA DONALD, BUT I THINK THE "BIG STUFF" IS ON THE WAY!
OH, MY ACHING SHOES AND SOCKS!
ROAR
KABOOM
WOW! THAT WAS THE GRANDPAPPY OF ALL METEORS!
IT LANDED JUST OVER THE RISE!
AND THE BEST PART IS THERE'S NO ONE OUT HERE BUT US TO CLAIM IT!
I KNEW IT! I KNEW IT! WE'RE GONNA BE ROLLING IN DOUGH AFTER ALL!
I CAN SEE THE GLOW FROM HERE JUST A FEW MORE FEET!
UH OH!
OH, NO! IT CAN'T BE!
SOMEBODY PLEASE TELL ME THAT LIFE ISN'T THIS CRUEL!

HOWDY, CUZ! GETS KINDA CHILLY OUT HERE ON THE DESERT AT NIGHT, DOESN'T IT?

GLADSTONE! WHAT IN THE DIDDLY DING-DONG DEUCE ARE **YOU** DOING OUT HERE?

NOTHING MUCH! I JUST CAME OUT TO SEE THE METEOR SHOWERS, THAT'S ALL!

AND I FIGURED, WHO KNOWS, I MIGHT EVEN GET **LUCKY**! HEH! HEH!

SOMEWHAT HENCE...

DAILY BUGLE

GLADSTONE GANDER WINS $5000!

I GUESS THE TITLE OF THE PROFESSOR'S BOOK WAS RIGHT AFTER ALL!

YEAH, METEORS ARE CERTAINLY WHERE YOU FIND THEM, ALL RIGHT!

WHICH IS OKAY, AS LONG AS YOU DON'T FIND THEM SITTING NEXT TO **GLADSTONE GANDER**!

THE END.

WALT DISNEY'S

MICKEY MOUSE

as the MONARCH of MEDIOKA

part VI

Duke Varlott has discovered the secret of the [illegible] and threatens to expose the ruse if Mickey does not abdicate and leave the kingdom to him. But help is on the way from an unexpected source

MICKEY I JUST SAW DUKE VARLOTT LEAVING! WOT DID HE WANT?

PLENTY! HE SAYS I GOTTA ABDICATE AN LEAVE MEDIOKA IMMEDIATELY!

BUT ZAT WOULD BE DISASTROUS!

SURE, IT WOULD! BUT TH' WAY VARLOTT'S GOT THINGS FIGGERED, ANYTHING WE DO IS GONNA BE DISAS-TROUS!

BUT ZE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS WOULD NOT ALLOW YOU TO LEAVE ZE COUNTRY NOW! EVERYTHING HINGES ON YOUR BEING HERE!

YEAH? WHY?

ZE COUNCIL HAS DECIDED AND ANNOUNCED PUBLICLY, ZAT YOU WILL MARRY ZE PRINCESS PHYLLINE TOMORROW!

BOY! WHAT A PICKLE! IF I ABDICATE, DUKE VARLOTT WILL BECOME KING AN' KING MICHAEL WILL NEVER BE HEARD OF AGAIN!

IF I DON'T, VARLOTT WILL EXPOSE ME, AN' I'LL BE KILLED AN' VARLOTT WILL BE KING JUS' TH' SAME--- AN' KING MICHAEL-- TH' SAME, TOO!

TH' COUNCIL O' MINISTERS WON'T LET ME LEAVE TH' COUNTRY AN' IF I STAY, I'VE GOTTA MARRY PHYLLINE TOMORROW! AN' TH' NEXT DAY SHE'D BE A WIDOW!

AN' NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS TO ME, IT LOOK'S LIKE KING MICHAEL'S GOOSE IS COOKED! TH' POOR GUY HASN'T GOT A CHANCE!

DOGGONE IT! IF THERE WAS JUST ONE WEAK- NESS IN VARLOTT'S PLAN, MEBBE I COULD DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT! BUT THAT'S TH' TROUBLE- THERE ISN'T!

LEAVING MICKEY ALMOST FRANTIC, DUKE VARJOTT HEADS BACK TOWARD HIS CASTLE NEAR THE BORDER OF MEDIOKA!

EET SEEMS IMPOSSIBLE ZAT TWO PEOPLE COULD LOOK SO MUCH ALIKE! EEF I DID NOT KNOW ZAT MICHAEL ISS IN MINE CASTLE UND MICKEY ISS IN TRUFFLEBERG---

WOT ISS ZIS? QUEEK! STOP ZE CAR!

WHAT DO YOU MEAN, SIR -- ACCOSTING A LADY ON A PUBLIC ROAD? CAN'T A TOURIST SEE YOUR COUNTRY WITHOUT BEING STOPPED?

PARDON ME, MA'MSELLE! MY MISTAKE! I THOUGHT YOU WERE SOMEONE ELSE!

THREE OF ZEM NOW! MAYBE I AM WRONG! MAYBE I AM GOING CRAZY!

AFTER A HOT, DUSTY TRIP, MINNIE FINALLY ARRIVES AT THE PALACE... WITH FIRE IN HER EYE!

RIGHT THIS WAY, MISS!

JUST WAIT TILL I SEE HIM! PUTTING ME TO ALL THIS TROUBLE! IF I DON'T TELL HIM A THING OR TWO!

MINNIE!

!

OH, BOY, OH, BOY, I'M GLAD TO SEE YOU!

MY GOODNESS, MICKEY! I---I---I GUESS I WASN'T AS MAD AS I THOUGHT I WAS!

NOW--WHAT'S THIS ALL ABOUT? WHAT ARE YOU DOING AS KING?

YOU SEE, KING MICHAEL WANTED A VACATION--SO I JUST TOOK HIS PLACE UNTIL HE COMES BACK!

TH' TROUBLE IS, HE CAN'T COME BACK--'CAUSE DUKE VARLOTT'S CAPTURED HIM--- AN' THAT LEAVES ME IN AN AWFUL SPOT!

MICHAEL'S ENGAGED T' BE MARRIED TOMORROW AN' EVERYBODY THINKS I'M MICHAEL---SO UNLESS HE COMES BACK, I'VE GOTTA TAKE HIS PLACE AT TH' WEDDIN'!

MERCY!

AN' TH' WORST OF IT IS--I CAN'T LEAVE MEDIOKA, 'CAUSE TH' COUNCIL WON'T LET ME--AN' I CAN'T STAY HERE, 'CAUSE VARLOTT WON'T LET ME!

BUT WHY DON'T YOU JUST GO AND GET KING MICHAEL AND BRING HIM BACK? THAT WOULD FIX EVERYTHING!

THAT'S JUST LIKE A WOMAN! BRING HIM BACK! YEAH! AN' TH' WHOLE MEDIOKA SECRET SERVICE CAN'T EVEN FIND HIM!

BUT, MICKEY! I KNOW WHERE HE IS! I'VE TALKED TO HIM, MYSELF!

YOU HAVE?

MINNIE! YOU --- WHY --- WHOOPEE! OUR TROUBLES ARE OVER!

MICHAEL! WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?

?

PRINCESS PHYLLINE!

WHAT DO YOU MEAN-- MAKING LOVE TO A COMMONER ZE DAY BEFORE OUR WEDDING?

MICKEY! ARE YOU GOING TO LET HER CALL ME A COMMONER?

SHHHH!— MINNIE! LET ME EXPLAIN!

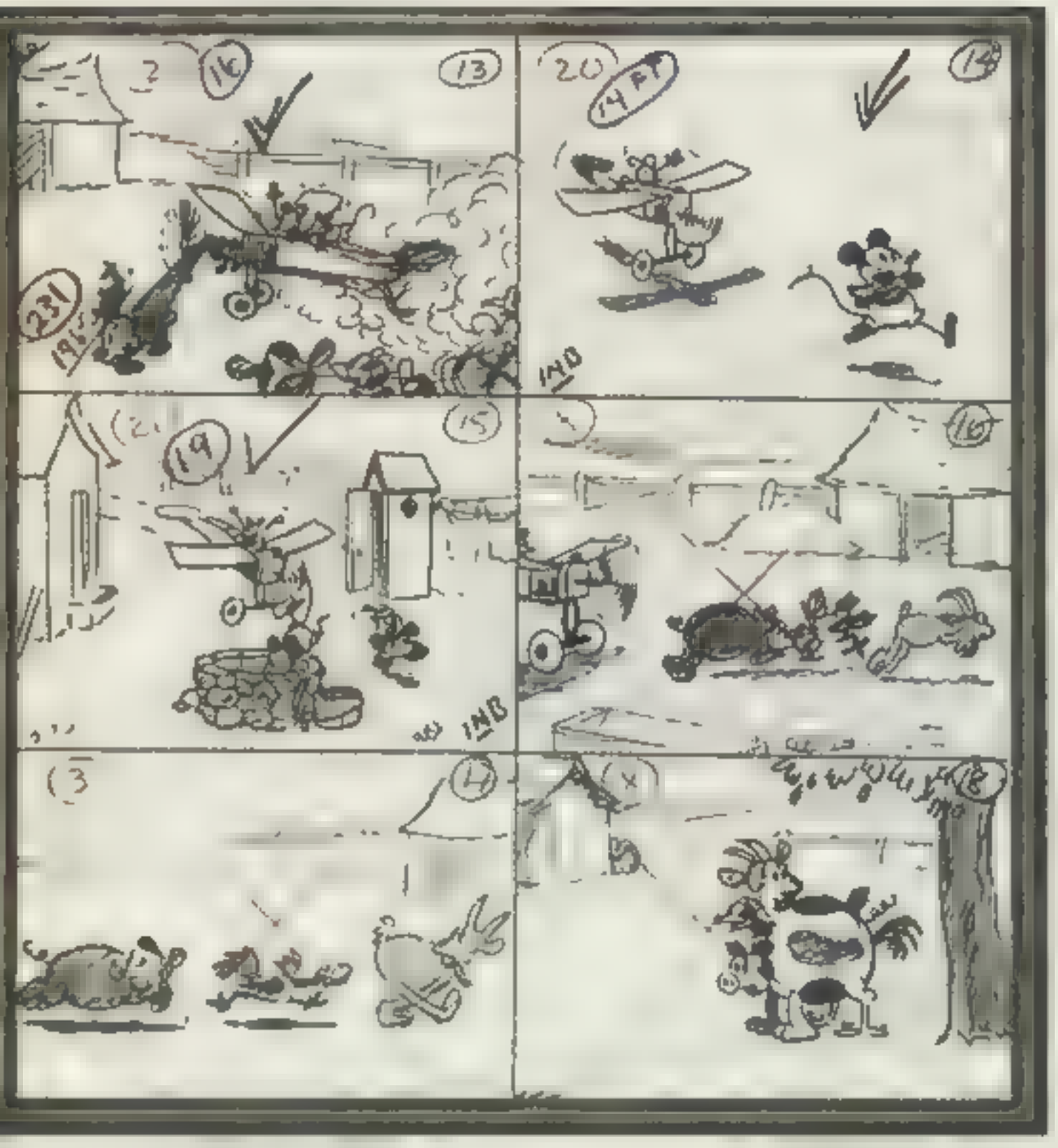
PHYLLINE, THIS IS---I MEAN, ZIS ISS--- MINNIE MOUSE! SHE'S---SHE ISS--AN OLD FRIEND O' MINE!

YES! I CAN SEE ZAT!

Continued following "Plane Crazy"

PLANE CRAZY

Charles Lindbergh was a hero nonpareil in the 1920's–every red-blooded young American wanting to be "just like Lindy," and Mickey Mouse was no different. It has been postulated by some Disney historians that the Mouse was **modeled** after Lindbergh, who had just made his historic trans-Atlantic flight the year before. (Actually, interviews with Ub Iwerks, newspaper strip artist Floyd Gottfredson and Walt himself have determined that Mickey's appearance was influenced primarily by Charlie Chaplin's look and Douglas Fairbanks'



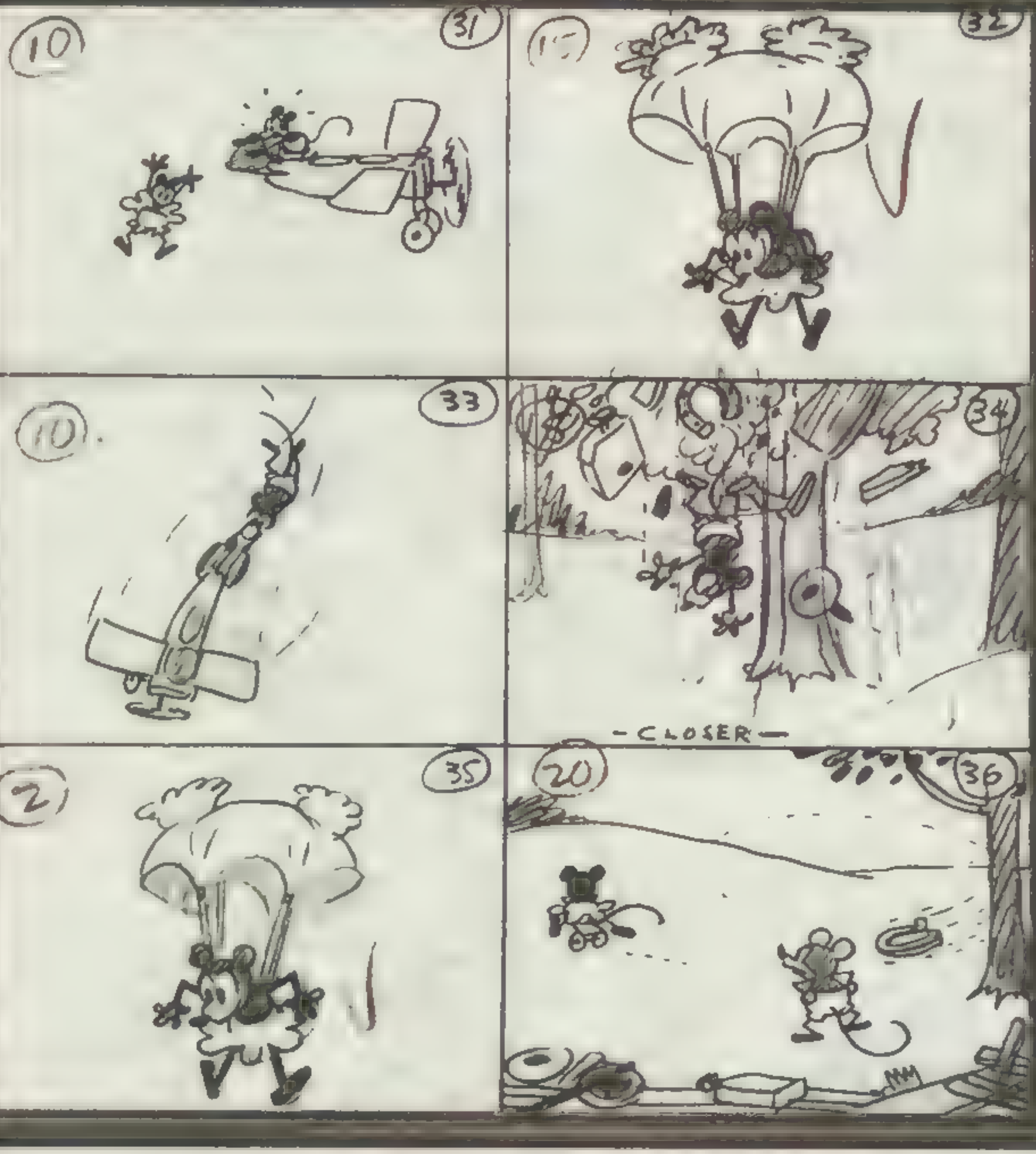
swashbuckling manner. The original rural settings of the cartoons, however, suggest a tie to Lindbergh's and Disney's own personal backgrounds.)

Plane Crazy–the first Mickey Mouse cartoon to be conceived and produced–was the second, after **Steamboat Willie**, to go into widespread release, its story line copied for the first comic strip continuity, both of which were written by Walt Disney. The time line of "firsts" is muddled somewhat by the fact that **Plane Crazy** was theatrically previewed before **Steamboat Willie**,

though not first put into general release.

The comic book-like format of the six story-sketch pages to **Plane Crazy** was by the same man who animated the first four Mickey cartoons, Ub Iwerks, an incredibly fast artist who was able to do hundreds of drawings a day. It was Iwerks who developed the style, design, personality and fluid, rubbery look of the early Mickey.

Storyboarding cartoon shorts–a control method of drawing gag sequences on small, individual pieces of paper that could be tacked up on 4 x 8-foot "storyboards" to allow for easy additions, deletions or rearrangement–was a method that was to come into industry use later. The Disney Studio had been laying out their **Alice** cartoons in the same manner as the **Plane Crazy** pages reproduced here, so when the latter surfaced after having been



lost for over sixty-five years, their look came as no surprise.

The panels X'd out were obviously to be deleted. As Walt Disney took a close, personal interest in refining the humor and pacing of his animation, it is believed that the checks, double checks and other markings were his, coded for a working system already in use at the Studio in 1928.

Gladstone would like to thank Stephen Geppi for allowing Gladstone to photocopy the framed sheets of **Plane Crazy** art before they were sent to the Cartoon Museum in Florida for permanent display.

Continued from page preceding "Plane Crazy"

ZIS ISS AN INSULT TO ME! UNLESS SHE LEAVES ZE PALACE AT ONCE, WIT'OUT ANOTHER WORD, ZE WEDDING ISS OFF!

UND WHEN ZE PEOPLE FIND OUT **WHY**, THEY WILL STORM ZE PALACE UND YOU WILL BE DRAGGED OFF ZE THRONE -- IN DISGRACE---OR **WORSE**!

!

!

LISTEN, PHYLLINE -- I WASN'T MAKIN' LOVE TO HER -- HONEST! BUT SHE BROUGHT SUCH GOOD NEWS THAT I SIMPLY HAD TO **HUG** HER!

YOU SEE, I'VE BEEN WORRIED ABOUT ZE WEDDING! I'VE BEEN AFRAID ZAT SOMET'ING MIGHT HAPPEN TO SPOIL IT!

BUT NOW WE CAN GO AHEAD WITH ZE WEDDING! WE'VE GOT NOTHIN' TO WORRY ABOUT! OUR TROUBLES ARE **OVER**! **WHOOPEE**!

?

OH, DARLING! ZAT ISS WONDERFUL!

!

SMACK!

NOW LISTEN, PHYLLINE! YOU'VE GOTTA TRUST ME! AN' DO WHAT I SAY! WILL YOU?

OF COURSE, DARLING!

OKAY THEN, NO MORE WORRYIN'! UND NOW GO PREPARE TO MARRY ZE KING--- TOMORROW!

OH, MICHAEL! ZAT ISS WONDERFUL!

GOOD-BYE, DARLING! I CAN HARDLY WAIT!

ME, TOO! G'BYE!

WHAT IS THIS? ARE YOU REALLY GOING TO MARRY THAT GIRL?

NOT ME! I SAID "PREPARE TO MARRY ZE KING," DIDN'T I? WE'RE GOIN' AFTER **HIM**--- RIGHT NOW!

BUT HOW CAN YOU RESCUE KING MICHAEL ALL BY YOURSELF? WOULDN'T IT BE SAFER IF WE HAD THE ARMY--OR SOMEBODY-- TO HELP US?

NO-- THAT WOULD RUIN EVERYTHING!

I'VE TOLD COUNT DE SHECKELS WHAT WE'RE GONNA TRY T' DO! IF OUR PLAN WORKS, WE'LL **HAVE** HELP!

AN' IF IT DOESN'T-- ALL TH' HELP IN THE WORLD WON'T DO US ANY GOOD!

OH, MICKEY! THAT'S WONDERFUL! YOUR OWN MOTHER WOULDN'T KNOW YOU!

WELL--SO LONG AS DUKE VARLOTT DOESN'T THAT'S ALL I CARE ABOUT CAUSE IF HE DOES, WE'RE SUNK!

BUT, MICKEY-- HAVEN'T YOU EVEN GOT A GUN?

NO, MINNIE! GID-DAP! AN' I SURE HOPE I WON'T NEED ONE! GID-DAP! DOG-GONE IT!

BUT WHY DIDN'T YOU BRING ONE?

IT'D JUST BE IN TH' WAY! IF I NEED A GUN, IT'LL MEAN WE'VE FAILED--AN' IT'D BE TOO LATE TO USE IT THEN!

OUR ONLY CHANCE TO RESCUE KING MICHAEL IS TO GET HIM OUT O' THAT CASTLE BEFORE ANYBODY EVEN KNOWS WE'RE THERE!

AN' IF DUKE VARLOTT GETS SUSPICIOUS, THERE'S NO USE FIGHTIN' BACK--- WITH GUNS OR ANYTHING ELSE! HE'S GOT US!

SHORTLY BEFORE DAWN, MICKEY AND MINNE ARRIVE AT THEIR DEST NATION AND-----

OPEN THIS DOOR! LET ME IN! OPEN THIS DOOR!

BAM! BAM! BAM!

WOT ISS ZIS? WOT DO YOU WANT? WHO ARE YOU?

I AM KING MICHAEL'S COUSIN! HE WANTS TO SEE ME-- IMMEDIATELY! TAKE ME TO HIS ROOM--- AT ONCE!

BUT-- HOW DID YOU KNOW HE ISS HERE?

EVERYBODY KNOWS HE'S HERE! TAKE ME TO HIM-- AND QUIT ARGUING!

JOOST A MOMENT! I MUST ASK DUKE VARLOTT!

BUT IT ISS IMPOSSIBLE! IT ISS A TRICK! CALL OUT ZE GUARD-- EFERY MAN! HAVE ZEM STAND BY ME WHILE I TALK TO HER-- MINE-SELF!

WOT DO YOU MEAN BY SAYING KING MICHAEL ISS HERE? HE ISS IN ZE PALACE AT TRUFFLEBERG!

DON'T BE SILLY!

I KNOW THE WHOLE STORY, JUST AS WELL AS YOU DO! WHAT'S MORE I TALKED TO HIM, MYSELF-- ONLY YESTERDAY!

MEANWHILE, ON THE FAR SIDE OF THE CASTLE.....

TH' TEN MINUTES IS UP! IF MINNIE'S DOIN' HER STUFF, NOW'S TH' TIME FOR ME T' DO MINE!

CRASH!

OOOOOOF! HEY! WOT.....?

WOT DO YOU MEAN, THROWING ROCKS LIKE ZIS? YOU SHALL BE----

SHHHHHHH! MICHAEL! TAKE IT EASY!

I'M MICKEY MOUSE! GRAB YER CLOTHES--AN' COME BACK TO TH' WINDOW! WE'RE RESCUIN' YOU!

FOR ZIS ATTEMPT TO RESCUE ME, MICKEY, YOU MUST ACCEPT MINE CON-GRATULATIONS UND SINCEREST THANKS!

QUIT GABBIN'--AN' JUMP! IF ONE O' TH' GUARDS SEES US, WE'RE LOST!

I CAN SEE ZE WISDOM OF YOUR ARGUMENT! MAKE WAY FOR ZE KING!

ATTA BOY, MICHAEL! KEEP OUT O' SIGHT -- AN' WE'RE OFF!

HEY! WOT ISS IT GOES ON OUT HERE?

WOT ARE YOU DOING HERE? WOT ISS ALL ZIS INFERNAL NOISE?

ER--UH--DIDN'T SOMEBODY HERE ORDER A LOAD O' HAY!

A LOAD UFF HAY? DELIVERED TO DUKE VARLOTT'S FRONT DOOR, PRACTICALLY?

GET OUDT OF HERE!!

YES, SIR, THANK YOU, SIR!

SLAM!

MICKEY, ZIS ISS WONDERFUL! HOW DID YOU RESCUE ME WIT'OUT ZE GUARDS KNOWING EET?

THEY WEREN'T AROUND! MINNIE HAD THEM ALL AT TH' BACK DOOR-ARGUIN'!

YOU MEAN--ZE YOUNG LADY? BUT ISS SHE NOT IN DANGER?

NOT IF WE GET AWAY! WITH YOU BACK AS KING IN TRUFFLEBERG DUKE VARLOTT WOULDN'T DARE TO HARM HER!

BUT WHAT IF VARLOTT CAPTURES US -- BEFORE WE GET TO TRUFFLEBERG?

THEN WE'RE ALL THREE IN PLENTY O' TROUBLE! GID-DAP!

HORSE! YOU HEARD WOT MICKEY SAID! ZE HONOR UFF MEDIOKA UND ZE SAFETY UFF A DAMSEL IN DISTRESS ARE AT STAKE! FOR ZE LOVE UFF MIKE--- GID-DAP!

!

MICHAEL! THERE'S A CLOUD O' DUST BEHIND - COMIN' FAST! GET OUT O' SIGHT! MEBBE IT'S DUKE VARLOTT!

NO! IT'S NOT! WHOOPEE! IT'S MINNIE!

RUN FOR YOUR LIVES! THE ENEMY IS COMING!

?

! KEEP OUT O' SIGHT, MICHAEL NO MATTER **WHAT** HAPPENS DUKE VARLOTT WILL BE HERE ANY SECOND!

JUST IN TIME! HERE THEY COME!

YOU BLUNDERING FOOL! GET ZAT CART OUT OF ZE WAY!

I'M SORRY, MISTER! I—I I JUST WANTED T'SEE IF MEBBE I HAD A FLAT TIRE, OR SOMETHIN'!

GET ZAT CART OUT OF ZE WAY, YOU FOOL!

I'M SORRY, SIR—I ···I··

CRASH!

YOU --YOU BLUNDERING NUMSKULL PEASANT, I'LL ---- I'LL ---

SILENCE, FOOL!

DON'T YOU KNOW YOUR OWN KING?

MICHAEL!

HIS MAJESTY!

IT ISS ZE KING!

TO BE CONCLUDED NEXT ISSUE!

I really enjoyed the stories in **Walt Disney Comics & Stories** 595. "The Monarch of Medioka" was from Gottfredson's best period, around 1937 to 1949 when Mickey was beginning to graduate into adventures similar to Barks' Duck stories. William Van Horn's "Deck Us All" contained some amusing details: $67.16, the price for the Christmas tree on the first page, echoed Donald's debt to Scrooge on page 2 of Van Horn's "The Black Moon", in **Donald Duck Adventures** 24. The name Sawtooth Mountain also appeared in Fallberg and Murry's "Monster of Sawtooth Mountain," a Mickey Mouse story that appeared in **WDC&S** 220-223. (Y'know, we haven't seen Fallberg & Murry lately, hint, hint).

As of **WDC&S** 596, William Van Horn has had his Donald Duck stories printed in six consecutive issues. The most recent story, "The Terror of Duckburg," besides being hilarious in its own right, features a clever use of continuity, when on page 2 and again at the bottom of page 3, one of the nephews hints toward Barks' "dishes for a month" story in **WDC&S** 185. And there has been at least one other reference to Barks in Van Horn's work: in "The Better Life," HD&L's cave clubhouse first appeared in "The Monkey's Uncle," from **WDC&S** 91.

I would like to see more continuity like this in Van Horn's stories, using his own characters Baron Itsy Bitsy, from **USA** 8, and Slicknob & Rupert, from Disney Comics' **DDA** 15.

Jonathan Markoff
Vienna, VA

The first installment of "The Monarch of Medioka" in **WDC&S** 593 was quite good, and I appreciate the inclusion of the two Chip n' Dale one pagers, giving this title a little more variety. However, what I'd *really* like to see is something, anything, with Ludwig Von Drake.

Kevin Kuffa
Flint, MI

As a long time collector of your comics, I have well over 300 of them. I notice that the back covers have only unattractive, uninteresting advertisements. But the front covers are gorgeous, colorful pieces of Disney artwork. My suggestion is to have wraparound covers. This would be a major improvement on the looks of the comics. Please consider my suggestion.

David Stama
Oswego, NY

We're glad you enjoy our covers. Wraparounds are nice, but economic reality dictates we use the back cover for advertising.

William Van Horn is the best thing to happen to **WDC&S** since Carl Barks.

I don't believe that anyone since Barks' early years could have staged a Donald vs. nephews conflict as perfectly as Van Horn did in "The Better Life."

Please see to it that this magazine becomes the permanent home for Bill's unique and always enjoyable take on the duck family.

Joe Torcivia
Westbury, NY

WDC&S #594 was a pretty good issue. William Van Horn's "The Better Life" was a good story, except I noticed a mistake. On page 5, panels 6 & 7, HD&L mention that Candied Plum Soufflé with whipped cream, nuts and green maraschino cherries is their favorite snack. However, in a Barks' tale from around 1956, they mention that candied kumquats is their favorite snack! I'm confused!

Speaking of Barks, how come we haven't seen any of his work in **WDC&S** since his story in issue 586? In **WDC&S** 582, which was done by Disney Comics, the letters page said that it was a Disney Comics tradition to have a Barks ten pager as the leadoff story in **WDC&S** every month.

Lastly, why is it your Mickey stories are always by Floyd Gottfredson? Why don't you reprint Paul Murry or Dick Moores? Don't get me wrong, I like Gottfredson's stories too, especially the one you're doing now, "The Monarch of Medioka." Is it the foundation of the Prince and Pauper? But ever since you started your second run, the Mickey stories have been only Gottfredson, with no exception, and I'd appreciate it if a change took place.

Tony Goldmark
San Francisco, CA

*Carl Barks' ten pagers appear regularly in Gladstone's **Donald Duck** and **Donald and Mickey** (soon to become **Donald Duck & Mickey Mouse**), and are showcased in our album series **The Carl Barks Library of Walt Disney's Comics and Stories In Color**.*

As for the nephew's favorite snack, we suppose they're entitled to change their minds once every forty years or so.

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This Issue's Credits

Donald Duck in "Meteor Madness," art, story and lettering by William Van Horn, colored by Susan Daigle-Leach.

Mickey Mouse in "The Year That Was 1928: Plane Crazy," text by Bruce Hamilton, designed by Jim Flanagan. (Artwork courtesy Steve Geppi.)

Mickey Mouse as the "Monarch of Medioka," part six, plotted and penciled by Floyd Gottfredson, written by Ted Osborne and Merril de Maris, inked by Al Taliaferro and Ted Thwaites (KFS 8/9/37-2/5/38),

NEXT ISSUE ON SALE AUGUST 15th!

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